

All he knew on the subject he had gathered from the Gazette.

Mr. White expressed his regret that he could add nothing to the information given on this subject.

Mr. Benton made a few remarks expressive of his ignorance of the cause of the war.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. White, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions offered by Mr. Benton.

Mr. White addressed the Senate in a speech of about two hours.

The Senate adjourned.

January 28.

Mr. Swift presented the petition of citizens of Vermont for the abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia.

Mr. Calhoun objected to receiving it.—The question was laid on the table.

Mr. Clay, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported the following resolutions; which he over for further consideration.

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to the Senate, if they be at his command, copies of the expose which accompanied the French bill of indemnity from the Chamber of Deputies to the Chamber of Peers of France, on the 27th of April, 1835, and of the report of the committee, presented to the Chamber of Peers on the 5th of June, 1835; and also, a copy of the original note, in the French language, from the Duc de Broglie to Mr. Barton, under date of the 20th October, 1835, a translation of which was communicated to Congress with the President's Special message of the 18th of January, 1836.

Resolved, That the President be requested (if not incompatible with the public interest) to communicate to the Senate a copy of a note, if there be one, from Mr. Livingston to the French minister of Foreign Affairs, under date of the 27th day of April, 1835, and copies of any other official note, addressed by Mr. Livingston, during his mission to France, either to the French minister of Foreign Affairs or to the Secretary of State, not heretofore communicated to Congress.

Mr. Benton's resolutions were taken up and Mr. Grundy and Mr. Hill, each made a speech, in favor of the grant of three millions last year, as was then proposed in what is called the fortification bill. It does not appear that either of them said a word on the subject at the time, before the House.

Mr. Webster said a few words by way of objection to that part of the resolutions which provides for appropriating only surplus revenue for the defence of the country. He was for appropriating as much money as may be necessary, and would vote for the resolutions if the mover would modify them accordingly.

February 1.

In the Senate, the Joint resolution, which being moved by Mr. White, of Florida, had passed the House of Representatives on Saturday, (for delivering rations to the inhabitants of Florida, suffering from Indian depredation and devastation,) was read a first, second, and third time, and unanimously passed. The residue of the day was occupied by Mr. Buchanan in a speech upon Mr. Benton's Resolution for appropriating the surplus revenue to fortifications, &c.—which he had not concluded when, at the usual hour, he gave way for a motion for adjournment.

February 2.

Mr. SOUTHARD submitted the following resolution, which lies one day for consideration:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate be, and he is hereby authorized to cause to be collected, arranged, and printed, the documents connected with the cession of the District of Columbia to the United States, the purchase of the lands therein by the Government from the original proprietors, the adoption and execution of the plan of the city of Washington, and the erection of the Public Buildings therein, the laws passed by Congress in relation to the said District, and all such papers of a public character as relate to the connexion of said District with the Government of the United States.

The senate then proceeded to the consideration of the resolutions offered by Mr. Benton.

Mr. Buchanan addressed the senate for about an hour, in conclusion of his remarks commenced yesterday.

Mr. Crittenden succeeded, and after he had concluded,

On motion of Mr. Mangum, the senate adjourned.

February 3.

The resolutions offered by Mr. Clay some days since, calling upon the President for further information, on the subject of our French affairs, was taken up and agreed to, with the following addition, moved by Mr. King.

Resolved, further, That the President be requested to cause an estimate to be furnished to the Senate, showing the probable advantages already derived by France from the execution of the treaty of July 4, 1831, on the part of the United States gratuitously favoring French commerce.

Resolved, further, That the President cause to be communicated to the Senate any information under the control of the Executive on the subject of discriminating duties imposed by France unfavorable to the commerce of the United States.

The Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions offered by Mr. Benton; when, Mr. Mangum addressed the Senate at length; but gave way, before he had concluded, to a motion to adjourn.

Before the motion to adjourn was put, Mr. Benton obtained leave to introduce, informally, the following resolution: which was considered and agreed to:

Resolved, That the President be requested to cause the Senate to be informed of all the measures taken by the Administration to suppress the Indian hostilities in Mexico; and, also, to communicate all the

information in his power relative to the cause of these hostilities.

On motion of Mr. Tyler, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

January 35.

Mr. J. Q. Adams presented a petition from sundry ladies, citizens of the district represented by him, praying the abolition of slavery and the slave trade in the District of Columbia.

Mr. Hammond rose to move that the petition be not received.

Mr. Adams. I claim the floor, and shall not yield it. I move, sir, that the petition be referred to a select committee of this House, with instructions to report thereon.

Mr. Glascock rose and asked if the gentleman was in order.

Mr. Adams called the gentleman to order, and proceeded. I address the House, said he, at this time, on account of the suspension of a decision on my appeal from a decision of the Chair, which appeal I had the honor of making some weeks ago. By that decision it was determined that a motion of reception is debatable.

The Chair stated that the gentleman was not in order to debate a point of order made on a former occasion.

Mr. Adams said, it is not the question of order which it is my purpose to discuss. The chair has decided that a motion to receive a petition is debatable, and that the 45th rule does not apply to it. Under that decision I claim the floor, and shall proceed to support my motion that the petition be received.

The Chair said the gentleman was in order to discuss that question.

After various motions and some debate, Mr. Adams said that it was for the purpose of referring the petition to a select committee that he moved its reception. It came from 106 females, with a request that he would present and support it. His wish was that the petition should be received, and referred to a committee, who should make a report to the House, which should show satisfactorily to the petitioners why the prayer of their petition ought not to be granted. He looked upon the presentation of any petitions with which he might be entrusted to be an imperative duty, which nothing should induce him to decline.

Mr. Miller moved that the motion of reception be laid on the table—agreed to.

Mr. Adams presented a petition signed by sundry citizens of Western Pennsylvania, praying the abolition of slavery and the slave trade in the District of Columbia.

Mr. Miller moved to lay the motion of reception on the table—agreed to,—ayes 149, noes 45.

Mr. Adams said he had still another petition on the same subject, signed by 400 citizens of Indiana county, Pennsylvania. He supposed that petitions might be presented by members of that House, although they did not come from their immediate constituents. He did not know any of the individuals whose names appeared on this petition, but he would present any petition the language of which he should deem respectful. After a speech of some length, Mr. A. moved that the petition be received.

On motion of Mr. Miller, the motion of reception was laid on the table.

Mr. Cushing presented three petitions from sundry inhabitants of Massachusetts, praying the abolition of slavery and of the slave trade in the District of Columbia, the reception of which he moved, and advocated at some length. He stated that he would make no motion in reference to the time for discussing the question. He would be perfectly content, if the House would assign a certain day for the consideration of the question. He gave notice, however, that, unless the House took this course, he should immediately present another petition, and then join conclusions with the gentleman from Georgia on the question whether the non-reception of a petition was an encroachment on the right of petition.

On motion of Mr. Hammond, the motion of reception was laid on the table.

Mr. Cushing then presented a petition from sundry inhabitants of Massachusetts, praying the abolition of slavery and the slave trade in the District of Columbia.

Mr. Hammond objected to the reception of the petition.

Mr. Cushing spoke at length in support of the motion to receive the petition, going into an elaborate constitutional view of the right of petition and maintaining that a refusal to receive petitions was equivalent to a denial of the right of petition.

Mr. Garland, of Virginia, spoke in reply to the remarks of the gentleman from Massachusetts.

On motion of Mr. Hammond, The House then adjourned.

January 26.

Mr. J. Q. Adams, from the Committee on manufactures, reported the following resolutions, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury, and he is hereby authorized to make the sale of the plates engraved for the treaties on the growth and manufacture of Silk, by Dr. James Mease, under a resolution of the House of Representatives of 11th May, 1836, being document No. 158, of the first session of the 20th Congress, and to deposit the Proceeds of the sale in the Treasury of the United States.

Mr. Wardwell, from the Committee on Revolutionary Pension, reported a bill for reviving and continuing the bill amendatory of the act entitled "An Act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Revolution."

Read twice, and committed.

Mr. Craig, from the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, reported a bill for the relief of the legal representatives of Capt. Thos. Goode, deceased. Read twice, and committed.

Mr. Mason of Va. from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported a bill for the relief of John Randolph Clay. Read twice and committed.

Mr. Mason, from the same committee, reported the following resolution.

Resolved, That on and after Tuesday the 2nd day of February, the several bills making appropriations for the support of Government, the Naval and Military service, Fortifications, and the Indian Department, at the hour of one o'clock on each day, except on Fridays and Saturdays, shall take precedence in order of business, and shall be considered until the same shall have passed the House.

This resolution was opposed by several persons, as an infringement of the rules of the House; and as a measure for forcing the appropriation bills too hastily through the House, under the influence of a war panic, before the effect of the President's two Messages upon France. They were supported by Messrs. Mason, Cambreleng, and other friends of the Administration. The previous question was finally moved and carried, by a vote of 113 to 86. The Resolution was then adopted, ayes 159, noes 59.

The Seminole War.

Mr. Cambreleng from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill appropriating \$500,000 for the suppression of the Seminole war. Read twice, and referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

The House then resolved into a Committee of the Whole on this bill—some amendments were offered and rejected, after which, the Committee rose and reported the bill.

It was then ordered to be engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. White of Florida, then introduced a resolution instructing the Military Committee to inquire into the propriety of authorizing a company of mounted riflemen on dragons to operate against the Indians.

January 27.

Mr. Adams's resolution to inquire into the cause of the loss of the Fortification bill of last year, was taken up.

The question being on the motion of Mr. Williams, of North Carolina, to amend the bill by adding "without power to send for persons and papers."

Mr. Cambreleng, who was entitled to the floor, spoke at a considerable length in vindication of himself from certain charges heretofore made against him, as having caused the failure of the fortification bill at the last Session, and maintained that the three million amendment was defeated by the Senate.

Mr. Reed followed in reply to the gentleman from New York, and to the gentleman from Massachusetts, (Mr. Adams,) contending, at length, that the bill was defeated by the President and the House of Representatives.

Mr. Hardin took the floor, and moved an adjournment. The House then adjourned.

January 28.

Mr. Conner from the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, reported a bill to change the organization of the Post office Department. It is a long bill and provides, among other things, that the revenues arising from the Post office Department shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States; and that appropriations shall be annually made by Congress for the Post office Department.

The bill was read twice, and committed.

Mr. Adams's resolution for raising a committee to inquire who caused the defeat of the Fortification bill of last session, was taken up, and Messrs. Hardin and Evans made speeches in reply to those formerly made by Messrs. Adams and Cambreleng. After which the House adjourned.

The same subject was again on Friday, 29th January, when Mr. Bynum spoke in reply to a speech formerly made by Mr. Wise of Virginia.

February 1.

This being petition-day, the House resumed, as the unfinished business, the consideration of the motion of Mr. Cushing, of Massachusetts, that the petition presented by him of sundry citizens of Massachusetts, praying the abolition of slavery and the slave trade in the District of Columbia, be received. Mr. Hammond, who was entitled to the floor, spoke about two hours in reply to the remarks of the gentleman from Massachusetts, (Mr. Cushing,) and in opposition to the reception of the petition; after which, on motion of Mr. Holsey, the pending motion was ordered to lie on the table; and the remainder of the day was occupied in the presentation and reference of other petitions.

Nothing of importance was done. Considerable part of the time was spent in debate about the mileage of members in traveling to and from Washington.

February 3.

On motion of Mr. H. P. Hunt, *Resolved*, That the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads be instructed to inquire into the expediency and propriety of reducing the present rate of postage upon the pamphlets published periodically.

Mr. Adams offered the following resolution; which lies on the table one day:

Resolved, That the President of the U. States be requested to communicate to this House, if not incompatible with the public interest, a copy and translation of the act of the Legislative Chambers of France, making appropriations for carrying into effect the indemnity stipulated for claims of citizens of the United States by the treaty of 4th of July, 1831; and also copies of all the communications from the French Government and their representative in the U. States, in relation to the execution of the treaty in the French language.

By consent, the bill from the Senate to repeal the first and second sections of an act to limit the term of certain offices therein named, and for other purposes, (to curtail the extent of Executive patronage, was read twice by its title, for the purpose of reference.

Mr. Mann moved to refer the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Bell, after some remarks, moved its reference to a select committee.

Without taking the question,

On motion of Mr. Patton, the House adjourned.

Extracts from the communications of Washington Correspondents,

To the Charleston Courier.

Jan. 22.

"Gov. Cass gave one of his crowded soirees last night, when about seven or eight hundred persons, of both sexes, of all classes, of every tone of character, and of every variety of pretension, paraded themselves through the well lighted apartments, if that could be called parading which consisted in squeezing, shuffling, shouldering, elbowing and jostling each other.

To the same from another correspondent.

Jan. 23.

"The city has been deeply excited for the last four or five days, by the political discussions in and out of Congress; a bad spirit, a spirit but ill calculated to promote the public peace, or add harmony to the freedom of discussion, prevails.

"The debates in the Senate, and particularly the speech of Mr. Webster, in which he accounted for the loss of the Fortification Bill of 1835, by throwing its defeat on the responsibility of the House of Representatives, has created much sensation, and led to a debate, which, at present, does not appear probably to be destined to arrive at an early close.

"Mr. John Quincy Adams, yesterday, feeling himself aggrieved by the remarks of Mr. Webster, presented a resolution, calling for a special committee to investigate the causes which led to the defeat of the Fortification Bill of 1835. The mere offering of such a resolution, as was foreseen, led to an angry state of feeling, and paved the way to the violent debate that is now progressing in the House of Representatives. Mr. Adams supported his resolution in a very eloquent speech of three hours, and though often called to order, he was permitted to go on, till he had produced a most thrilling state of excitement. He contended, that the responsibility of the failure of the Fortification Bill, was to be borne by the Senate, and not by the House. He assailed Mr. Webster with great violence and acrimony.

To the Charleston Courier.

Jan. 25.

"Mr. Adams' attack on Mr. Webster, in the House, on Friday, is at present the theme of general conversation, and I may say of general surprise and indignation.—He has never overcome his anger and mortification that Mr. Davis was elected Senator, by the aid of Mr. Webster.

To the same.

Jan. 26.

"The question was settled in a short time, as Mr. Adams wished it, and he immediately thereafter, handed up a petition from one hundred and sixty-five ladies of Marshfield, Mass., praying for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia. This petition, Mr. Adams wished to have referred to a select committee, and for the following avowed reason:—He said, that these petitions were coming in day after day, and it was necessary that they should be acted upon. He could not consent that they should be turned out of doors, and he wanted them to be treated respectfully and kindly. He wished to administer reason to the abolitionists, not violence, and if the petitions were referred to a select committee, a report could be afforded that would satisfy and convince the people of the North, that Congress had no power to authorize it to abolish Slavery in the District of Columbia.

To the Fayetteville Observer Jan. 23.

DEAR SIR: The resolution offered by Mr. Adams some days ago, proposing the appointment of a Committee to inquire into the causes of the failure of the Fortification bill of last session, to which the three million appropriation was appended, has been under discussion for several days in the House.—The character of the debate has been one of the most angry and personal of any I ever before witnessed in Congress.

I think there now remains no doubt but it is the settled purpose of the Administration to have a war with the France.

A conspiracy has been recently detected in the city of Mexico, wherein numbers are implicated; three hundred, it is reported, have been apprehended. The expedition of Gen. Mejia to Tampico was supposed to have been in concert with this movement.

From the New Orleans True American.

We publish to-day the translation of a decree passed in Mexico, on the 23d of October last, which will give our readers an idea of the present form of the government of Mexico. The said decree annihilates at one blow all the state legislatures, and converts the Governors and other state authorities into the mere agents of the Central Government, dependent on the will or whim of the dictator.

To understand more fully the extent of the outrage which has been committed upon the constitution, it is necessary to bear in mind, that this general congress was elected under the constitution of 1824, with constitutional powers alone; that the members took the oath prescribed by that constitution to observe and sustain it, and that in violation of this oath the two houses decreed themselves into a convention, and united in one house or chamber, thus destroying the Senate and usurping powers which were never granted.

TRANSLATION OF THE DECREE.

Art. 1. The present Governors of the States shall continue, notwithstanding the time fixed by the constitutions may have expired; but shall be dependent for their continuance in the exercise of their attributes upon the supreme government of the nation.

Art. 2. The legislatures shall immediately cease to exercise their legislative functions; but before dissolving (and those which may be in recess meeting for the purpose) they shall appoint a department council, composed for the present of five individuals, chosen either within or without their own body, to act as a council to the governor,

and in case of a vacancy in that office, they shall propose to the supreme general government three persons, possessing the qualifications hitherto required; and until an appointment be made, the gubernatorial powers shall be exercised by the first on the list, who is not an ecclesiastic.

Art. 3. In those States where the legislatures cannot be assembled within eight days, the ayuntamiento of the capital shall act in its place, only for the purpose of electing the five individuals of the department council.

Art. 4. All the judges and tribunals of the states, and the administration of justice, shall continue as hitherto, until the organic law relative to this branch be formed. The responsibilities of the functionaries which could only be investigated before Congress, shall be referred to, and concluded before the supreme Court of the nation.

Art. 5. All the subaltern officers of the State shall also continue for the present (the places which are vacant, or which may be vacated, not to be filled) but they, as well as the offices, revenues and branches under their charge, remain subject to, and at the disposal of the supreme government of the nation, by means of the respective governors.

JOSE MANUEL MORENO, Pres't.

Jose R. Malo, Secretaries.

Atenogenes Castillero, Secretaries.

From the Albion, a British paper published in New York.—"We always thought that France sought to avoid war, and, therefore, would insist on terms which it is impossible to grant. Louis Phillip well knows that such a humiliating apology—for it is absurd to call it an explanation—would be utterly scorned on this side of the Atlantic. Why then does he demand what he knows beforehand will be refused? Because, we apprehend, he has taken a survey of his position, and finds that a war will not be so unpopular as was at first imagined. Perhaps he thinks it may seat him more firmly on his throne, and if so, is not his now apparent indifference to the continuance of peace explained?

From The Courier des Etats Unis, a French paper also published in New York.—"After these positive declarations on either side, how are the two Governments to extricate themselves from this critical and uneasy position! We can see but three methods.

First; by a change of ministry and of system in France, which, releasing the new incumbents from the obligations resting upon their predecessors in office, shall permit the former to declare themselves satisfied with the explanations given in the message [of December.] This event is very doubtful but not impossible, for a strong opposition appears to have manifested itself lately in the cabinet against the Duke de Broglie and the Ministers who enrol themselves under his banner. The King himself appears to have inclined toward this change in favor of men who will be more accommodating than M. de Broglie in regard to all foreign affairs.

The second method; by the continuance of the uncertain and uneasy position in which we now find ourselves, during fourteen months longer, in case the Congress of the United States shall refuse, during all that time, to adopt any measures of non-intercourse, of reprisals or hostilities. The words which have been found offensive by France having been uttered by a magistrate about to retire into private life, and not approved or sustained by any act of the national legislature, we are confident that the French cabinet, of whomsoever it may be composed, will at once fulfill the conditions of the treaty, abandoning entirely all claim for explanations, which shall have become useless by the accession of a new President.

Third method; by a war, a ruinous, absurd, disastrous war, if Congress shall consent to the non-intercourse proposed in the special message.

Since the above was in type, the news has been received that the British Government has offered its mediation.

INDIAN WAR.

A letter received in this city, says the Charleston Courier, dated Tallahassee, Jan. 21, says, "We regret very much the misfortune of your suffering friends—here we apprehend no danger. The Governor has just sent West of this for 300 friendly Indians, who have offered their services. There will be a draft in this place on Saturday next."

Tallahassee, Jan. 23.—We continue to receive the most threatening news from the frontier. Captain Summerlin's company has been attacked near Newnansville, and forced to retreat. A portion of Capt. M. Lemore's company, has also been attacked, near Suwannee Old Town, and sustained a loss variously reported, from two to four killed. The Indians are on this side of the Suwannee, in the rear of our army! Every effort is making to organize a sufficient force for the defence of the country.

Civilization of the Indians.—The Federal Government appropriate annually ten thousand dollars for the civilization of the Indians. This sum is devoted to the support of schools undertaken by the various religious sects. Thus, in the last year, two thousand dollars were paid to the Baptist General Convention, who have in their schools established among the Indians in New York nearly three hundred pupils.—Five hundred dollars were paid to the Protestant Episcopal Church for educating sixty-six Menomies at Green Bay. Four hundred to the Methodist Society, who have in west Mississippi several schools for Shawnees, Kickapoos, and others. Seventeen hundred to the American Board of Commissioners for Missions; and one thousand to the Catholics.

We find, (says the New York Commercial Advertiser, the "following frightful account of the ravages of the cholera, in a Gibraltar Chronicle: "The last caravan

attacked by the cholera at Mecca, worn down with fatigue and destitute of water almost wholly perished. No less than 40,000 pilgrims were left behind in the desert. The dust of the desert surrounding Mecca is, in fact, the dust of man."

CHERAW GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1836.

To every subscriber who will procure us three responsible new subscribers, we will forward a receipt for a year's subscription.

Owing to the indisposition of two of our workmen, we found it impossible to get our paper to press in proper time without doubling some of the advertisements.

The press of congressional, and other political matter, prevents our furnishing our readers, at this time, with as much variety, especially in the departments which most interest families and farmers as we design generally to do.

We are indebted to Col. Manning for a copy of the speech of Mr. Pickens, of this State, on the abolition question, and the speech of Mr. Adams on his resolution to inquire into the cause of the loss of the fortification bill of last session.

The latter of these speeches we have read. We had previously seen it stated somewhere that Mr. A. was supposed to be laboring under some degree of mental derangement; and while reading the speech we were almost half inclined to suspect that there was some shadow of foundation in truth for the report. Mr. A. used to be a good reasoner, but in different parts of this speech there is no connection between the premises and conclusions. Besides, madmen often hate their best friends most, and the bitter hatred evinced by Mr. A. in this speech for Mr. Webster his former friend and supporter, savors very much of moral if not of mental insanity. Mr. Adams's recent movements remind us forcibly of some incidents in his past history, which are not very creditable to himself nor to the country over which he was afterwards made President. He seems to us now a little like a spoiled child, who is more fretted by taking away its toy than it was gratified in receiving it.

We have also read the speech of Mr. Webster, which was the occasion, though not the cause of Mr. Adams's fierce onset, and though able, some part of it evinces a littleness which we did not expect from so great a man. There was really no call for his censuring as he did the House of Representatives of the last session, nor any propriety in his doing it. If party papers, and even members of high standing in the House, censured the Senate and him particularly, he ought to have felt himself above recrimination such as he indulged himself in.

It will be most gratifying intelligence to those of our readers who have not already heard it, that the British Government has despatched a special messenger to the diplomatic agent of that country at Washington, directing him to offer the mediation of his Government between this country and France, and that the offer has been accepted. The special messenger has returned with information to that effect. This dispels all apprehension of war, for the present. We think there can be no doubt that he difficulty will now be settled without war.

We have received from the publisher, Mr. A. E. Miller, of Charleston, his edition of the very able reply to Dr. Channing's publication on slavery. It is anonymous, but is said to have been written by the Attorney General of Massachusetts. We hope the public will reward Mr. Miller for the expense of republication.

Southern Literary Journal.—The third article in the January number of this Periodical was no doubt designed to make an impression upon the mind of the reader hostile to missionary operations, if not to the Christian religion, as it is understood by most of the denominations of this State.—The article is a sketch of a "most atrocious liar" called "Joe Wilkins." "He laughs with every body—lies with every body." "He is a member of several Societies—the Temperance, the Bible, Missionary, and others. — He talks to me just as freely as he did at school; and I can see that he lies just as much as ever."

Now, it is not said expressly that this atrocious liar is a member of any Christian church—this is left to be inferred; and other statements are made calculated to identify him with Christians.

Again, "Joe is active in his charities. He is now engaged in collecting subscriptions from the old ladies to send a missionary named Thomson to preach to the people of Bombay or South America—I forget which—the propriety of overthrowing the established religion and government of the country, as in the last degree hostile to the freedom of man in this life and his immortal safety hereafter."